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Amendment A
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REMARKS

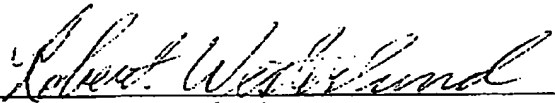
A non-final Office Action was mailed on August 14, 2003. A Petition for a One Month Extension of Time, and an Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") were filed on November 18, 2003, thereby extending the due date for responding to the Office Action to December 15, 2003 (August 14th fell on a Saturday). A Petition for an additional Two Months Extension of Time is filed concurrently herewith in order to further extend the deadline for filing a response to February 17, 2004 (February 14th fell on a Saturday, and February 16th was a holiday). Applicant's undersigned representative hereby authorizes any other fee which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-2372.

Claims 1-69 are pending in the present application. The instant Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, 6-11, 18, 21, 24, 26-29, 30, 31, 41, 44-49, 53, 56, and 60-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Qmodem*-Advanced Communications Operation Manual, Version 4.0, 1989 ("*Qmodem*"). The Office Action also rejects claims 5, 12-14, 17, 19, 20, 25, 32, 33, 36-40, 52, 54, 55, 59, 66-69 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Qmodem*. Finally, the Office Action rejects claims 2, 3, 15, 16, 22, 23, 34, 35, 42, 43, 50, 51, 57, 58, 64, and 65 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Qmodem* and U.S. Patent Number 6,031,977 ("*Pettus*"). Applicant respectfully traverses each of these prior art rejections of claims 1-69. Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicant has herein cancelled claims 1-69 in favor of newly-added claims 70-113, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in final condition for allowance, and therefore respectfully requests early allowance of the present application. However, if the Examiner believes that there are any additional issues that remain to be resolved, the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicant's undersigned representative prior to taking any further formal action in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,

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